

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, and 18 have been amended by this response. New claims 21-24 are added. Thus, claims 1-24 are pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter.

Applicants appreciate that the Examiner considers claims 4, 5, 7-13, and 18 to include allowable subject matter.

Independent claims 13 and 18 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, allowance of these claims and their respective dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)/103(a)

Claims 1-3, 6, 14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Goukura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,243,412; hereinafter "Goukura"). Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goukura. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Goukura describes a sampling clock signal which determines sampling time points in an A/D converter used to convert a color video signal to digital form. The sampling clock signal is locked to a specific predetermined phase of the color burst signal of the video signal by a negative feedback loop formed of a circuit for deriving successive color burst phase values from the digital color signal values. A gate circuit and a subtractor are included for obtaining the difference between color burst phase and a reference phase value, for one specific A/D conversion sampling time point in each horizontal scanning interval, and circuits for producing

the sampling clock signal and controlling the phase of that signal in accordance with the phase difference values (see Abstract, Goukura).

However, Goukura neither discloses nor suggests a phase difference calculation means including a delaying means to apply a delay of a prescribed number of lines or fields to the phase information from the phase detecting means as in claim 1 of the present invention. Instead, Goukura merely describes a circuit for generating a clock signal which is locked to a specific predetermined phase of a color bursts signal. In other words, Goukura is seeking to eliminate the need for manually executing phase adjustments of a circuit which produces the sampling clock signal. This is wholly unlike the present invention which provides a phase difference calculation means including a delaying means to apply a delay of a prescribed number of lines or fields to the phase information from the phase detecting means in order to calculate a line-to-line phase errors in accordance with the color subcarrier phase information obtained from a burst information detecting means. With this arrangement, the present invention seeks to provide excellent two-dimensional or three-dimensional Y/C separation regardless of the line-to-line or frame-to-frame phase relationship of the composite video signal and regardless of the use of non-standard signal. As a result, picture quality degradation after Y/C separation is prevented. Goukura, on the other hand, is not concerned with providing these features. Thus, Goukura does not disclose or suggest "phase difference calculation means includes a delaying means applying a delay of a prescribed number of lines or fields to the phase information from the phase detecting means" as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Houkura does not anticipate claim 1. As claims 2-12, 14-17, 19, and 20 are dependent on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that, in addition to the above remarks, these claims are also patentable for the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. It is thus further respectfully submitted that these rejections should be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 21-24 are dependent on claims 13 and 18 respectively and are considered patentable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claims 13 and 18.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Dennis P. Chen (Reg. No. 61,767) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

D. Richard Anderson
Registration No.: 40,439
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicants